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COULD RIHANNA PLAY WHITNEY? {page 12}

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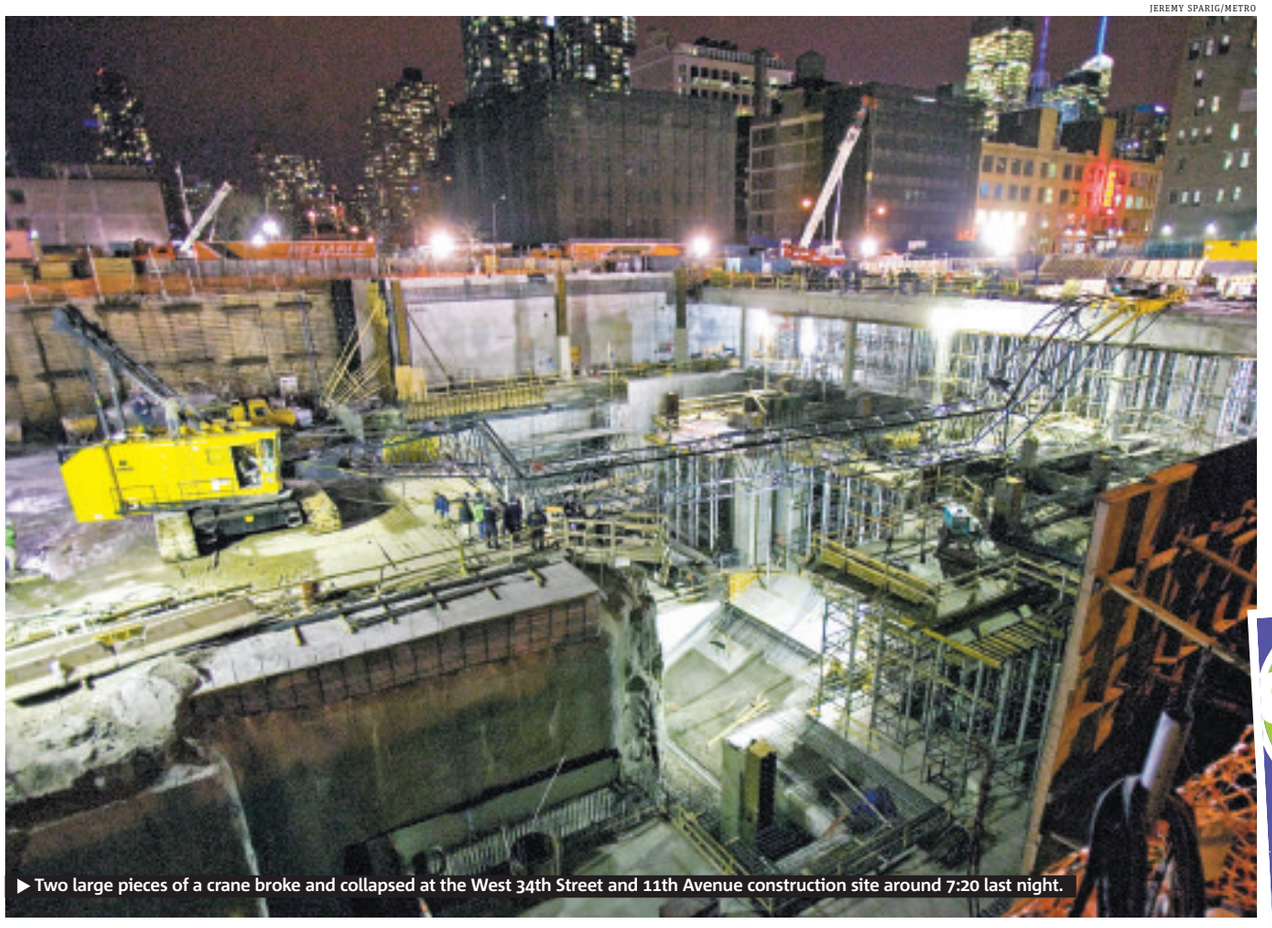
NEW YORK
Wednesday, April 4, 2012

# Worker dies in crane collapse at 7 train site

30-year-old man killed in accident at 34th Street, 11th Avenue site of extension project Four others hurt in crash, one with broken leg Victims stuck 60 feet below street level made rescue effort especially difficult, FDNY official says {page 07}

JEREMY SPARIG/METRO



▶ Two large pieces of a crane broke and collapsed at the West 34th Street and 11th Avenue construction site around 7:20 last night.

News

## Domestic violence up as funding down

Funding to help victims cut from $4M four years ago to $2.5M Calls for help and deaths on the rise {pages 04-05}

## 'Titanic': Going down again

Billy Zane says you might actually like him better after seeing him in 3-D {page 15}

## Rangers clinch top East record

A 5-3 win in Philly means Blueshirts hold home-ice advantage {page 22}

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# NYPD amps up patrols

**No specific threats about upcoming Passover holiday, but police presence to be increased around synagogues and Jewish centers Concerns high after Toulouse, France, shooting**

As tens of thousands of New Yorkers are preparing to celebrate Passover, which begins Friday, the NYPD is amping up security and vigilance for the Jewish holiday.

Police Commissioner Ray Kelly gathered rabbis, community leaders and police officers yesterday morning at One Police Plaza, where he detailed how the NYPD will be boosting the number of police officers around synagogues this week and into the weekend.

Cops have not received any specific threats about the Passover holiday, Kelly said.

But he did describe a threat revealed late Monday night — an online graphic of the city skyline with the words "Al Qaeda coming soon again in New York." The image had been circulating among several Islamic extremist websites, police said.

"The Internet is the new Afghanistan," Kelly explained. "That's where training happens, that's where radicalization happens. It has been a very valuable tool for terrorists."

SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Police, seen here outside the Riverdale Jewish Center in the Bronx, will increase patrols around synagogues.

The message was posted on an Arabic-language al-Qaeda "artwork and design" forum and brought to Kelly's attention yesterday, he said.

Kelly also mentioned recent anti-Semitic terror attacks, like the March 19 attack in Toulouse, France, where an armed man attacked a school, killing a rabbi and three children. Kelly said the NYPD sent an officer to Paris to investigate.

After the Toulouse shootings, more cops were added to houses of worship and Jewish sites in the city.

In New York, he said, "Such attacks are certainly not outside the realm of possibility."

He added that "lone wolves" are a particularly difficult threat to detect, and that the police department needs to invest money in intelligence, which he called "the only effective way to stop this kind of plot."

The police department routinely boosts security around Passover. Around Ramadan, it similarly beefs up patrols around mosques and Muslim communities.

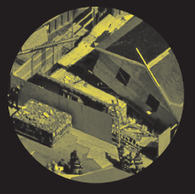
**ALISON BOWEN**
alison.bowen@metro.us

**In the news**

## Mom charged in death of her baby boy

The mother of an 11-month-old who drowned in the bathtub Sunday was arrested yesterday and charged with endangerment. Angelica Huertas, 24, told police she stepped out of the bathroom after giving the baby a bath. The boy was still in the tub, which she thought would drain. But she returned to find Elijah Pardella floating in the water and not breathing. METRO/CB

**In the news**



## Worker dies in building collapse

One construction worker died and four others were injured when a building collapsed yesterday morning in Gerritsen Beach, according to the Daily News. The 22-year-old worker died after he was trapped under the rubble. Fellow hardhats were able to pull him out, but he died after being taken to Lutheran Medical Center. METRO/CB

**Recent incidents create concern**

**New York City has been hit with a rash of anti-Semitic incidents in the past six months.**

- Earlier this year, a swastika was spraypainted onto a tree at Floyd Bennett Field, and residents in Midwood found the message "Die Jews" near three swastikas on garage doors.
- Yesterday, Jewish leaders asked Kelly about recent swastikas in Williamsburg and a person spotted filming outside a synagogue there.
- In response, Kelly said the NYPD will randomly send heavily armed officers into Jewish neighborhoods.

**Quoted**

**"While we know of no similar threat to the city at this time, such attacks are certainly not outside the realm of possibility."**
**RAY KELLY, POLICE COMMISSIONER**

## Cops: Creator of image may have money

**NEW YORK.** The person who created the image, shown above, may be Egyptian, cops said, and used software that costs about $1,600, indicating he might have financial backing, top police spokesman Paul Browne told Metro.

"The language is certainly threatening," Browne told reporters yesterday.

"We're still very much concerned about the origination of this message," Kelly added. "It reminds us that New York is still very much on their minds." METRO/AB

## MTA chief: 7-train won't go to New Jersey — ever

**NEW YORK.** For those of you who were hoping the 7-train would one day extend to New Jersey: Stop. Yesterday morning MTA Chairman Joe Lhota squashed Mayor Michael Bloomberg's vision of an interstate subway system.

"I can't see this happening in our lifetime," said Lhota, addressing an influential group of property owners and developers at the New York Building Congress.

"Of course New Jersey would like to have it," he continued. "They think they're going to get across the river for $2.50. Not a chance. It's not going to happen, not in our lifetime, not in anybody's lifetime." The cash-strapped MTA simply cannot afford a project of such size and scale, he said. METRO/CB

**"Hopefully it happens in somebody's lifetime. It would be great if it happened."**
**MAYOR MICHAEL BLOOMBERG**

▶ The MTA cannot afford to send the line to New Jersey.

## Manhattan apartment prices on the decline

**NEW YORK.** Manhattan apartment prices dropped in the first quarter as new buyers seeking refuge from rising rents drove purchases of lower-cost studios and one-bedroom units to a two-year high.

The median price of all condos and co-ops that changed hands in the three months fell 0.9 percent from a year earlier to $775,000, New York appraiser Miller Samuel Inc. and broker Prudential Douglas Elliman Real Estate said in a report released yesterday. Studios and one-bedrooms accounted for 56 percent of sales completed in the quarter. The smaller units, favored by entry-level buyers, accounted for 49 percent of all transactions a year earlier. BLOOMBERG

**"Because the rental market is so hot, people are realizing that maybe buying a starter home is a better option."**
**SOFIA SONG, STREETEASY.COM**

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# As budgets drop, domestic violence climbing steadily

▶ "Every year it's been an uphill battle," said Michelle Jackson, of the Human Services Counsel, of the fight to secure funding that helps domestic violence victims.

**Nonprofits worry funding will be cut to help women fleeing abusive situations • $2.5 million hangs in the balance of next year's budget • Money helps groups that provide legal assistance and therapy to victims**

As funding has steadily dwindled to help New Yorkers escape domestic violence situations, the number of deaths from abuse has sharply increased in the past three years.

And now, $2.5 million hangs in the balance. Advocates are worried that, as the city puts together next year's budget, the City Council will not renew funding for groups that help domestic violence victims.

Homicides from domestic violence, classified by the city as "family-related homicides," increased 19 percent in 2011 from 2010. The Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence recorded 92 deaths last year, up from 77 in 2010. And the number of deaths last year is a 48 percent increase from 2009, when the city recorded 62 deaths.

**"There are so many components to helping victims of domestic violence put the pieces back together."**
**MICHELLE JACKSON, HUMAN SERVICES COUNSEL**

Police also responded to more domestic violence incidents last year — about 258,000 calls, or approximately 700 a day. That's around 20 more calls per day compared to 2010.

Funding for the city's Domestic Violence Empowerment program, an umbrella program that funds about 50 groups helping domestic violence survivors, has declined in recent years, said Michelle Jackson of the Human Services Counsel.

"The trend in the last four years has been that as funding has been cut, homicides have increased," Jackson said.

In fiscal year 2008, the funding was $4 million, she said. Since then, it's been gradually slashed.

Right now, advocates are struggling to secure $2.5 million for next year before funding expires in June, she said.

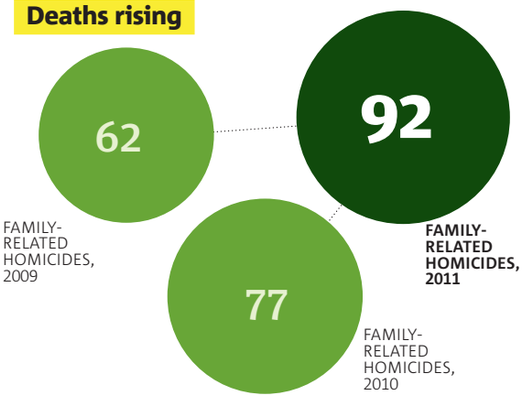
# THE BIG ISSUE

WITH METRO'S **ALISON BOWEN**

@alisonatmetro alison.bowen@metro.us

ISTOCKPHOTO

## Deaths rising




## By the numbers

**Calls to the police reporting domestic violence are up:**

COMSTOCK

**234,988**
**Domestic violence incidents in 2008 – more than 600 each day**

**250,349**
**Domestic violence incidents in 2009 – more than 680 each day**

**249,440**
**Domestic violence incidents in 2010 – still more than 680 per day**

**257,813**
**Domestic violence incidents in 2011 – more than 700 each day**

## What's causing the uptick?

**NEW YORK.** Although it's unclear what caused the uptick in domestic violence murders, some say a recession and economic struggles might create more stress inside families, increasing the need for a safe haven.

Alejandra Soto, director of communications for the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence, said that their office has also dealt with funding cuts — and that the increase in deaths may not be a direct correlation.

"We don't know why they went up," she said of the increase in fatalities. "Nobody knows for sure what drives domestic violence."

## How is the money spent?

**NEW YORK.** The $2.5 million from the city is funneled to a variety of programs supporting people who leave abusers, such as legal help for restraining orders, therapy and finding housing.

"You have to take a holistic approach," said Michelle Jackson, of the Human Services Counsel. "Legal services to get custody, get support, get away from their abuser, breaking leases — things that people don't necessarily think of that are vital to severing those ties and starting a new life."

## A survivor's story

BARRIER FREE LIVING

▶ Alejandrina, at right

**Alejandrina came to Barrier Free Living in 2009 while trying to escape an abusive significant other.**

The group helped her transition from living in a shelter to finding an apartment of her own. They also provided her with counseling and case management, guiding her through getting back on her feet and creating her own life.

"I've been doing things with my life, different things," Alejandrina said. "I've been taking self-defense classes and teaching Spanish, and I continue with my life with the help of my case manager."

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## News in pictures

# Say hello to the new yellow cab

Last night, Nissan officially unveiled their NV200 van, which will hit city streets next year.

METRO/CB

**1:** By 2018, this is what the entire city cab fleet will look like, say officials.
**2:** The new taxis can seat up to four passengers, with airbags in the front and back.
**3:** The tricked-out new cab comes with sliding doors, a cell phone charging station and USB ports.
**4:** Compared to current taxis, there's much more room for luggage in the back.
**5:** The NV200 will also feature sliding windows and a clear plastic roof so riders can look out at the city as they zoom past.

PHOTOS: NISSAN

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY NISSAN

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# Crane crash kills worker at 7 train extension site

A construction worker was killed last night after a crane collapsed at the Midtown West site of the MTA 7 train extension project. Four others were injured, according to police.

According to fire officials, the accident happened at 7:20 p.m. Two large pieces of a crane — an 80-foot piece and a 40-foot one — collapsed at West 34th Street and 11th Avenue.

One worker, who later died, was unconscious and receiving CPR when he was transported to Bellevue Hospital. A second worker was treated for a broken leg and listed in stable condition.

"The people who were injured were 60 feet down in the pit," FDNY Deputy Chief Bill Seelig told DNA Info. "So, it wasn't an easy removal. It was a complicated job because it wasn't at ground level."

"It sounded like a bomb went off," a witness told the New York Post. "When I turned, I didn't see the crane, the one that is always here. So we knew what it was right away. We saw a plume of smoke."

No other buildings were damaged by the collapse, according to a police official.

The cause of the collapse was not immediately clear.

METRO

**Quoted**

**"It sounded like a bomb went off."**

WORKER ON THE SITE TOLD THE NEW YORK POST

**Apple.** $1 trillion

▶ More than 3 million new iPads have been sold since the device's release last month.

GETTY IMAGES

Apple Inc. rose to a record after two analysts said the stock could surge past $1,000 a share, putting the maker of the iPhone on a path toward becoming the first $1 trillion company. BLOOMBERG


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# Suspected shooter at Oakland college targeted administrator, classmates

An ex-student suspected of opening fire at a small Christian college in California, killing seven people and wounding three, was targeting a school administrator and former classmates who he felt had treated him unfairly, police said yesterday.

Oakland Police Chief Howard Jordan said at a news conference that One Goh, 43, who had been expelled from Oikos University, had been cooperative after being taken into custody but "not particularly remorseful."

"We know that he came here with the intent of locating an administrator and she was not here," Jordan said. "He then went through the entire building systematically and randomly shooting victims."

**"We know that he came here with the intent of locating an administrator and she was not here."**
**OAKLAND POLICE CHIEF HOWARD JORDAN**

The midmorning attack at Oikos was the deadliest shooting rampage on a U.S. college campus since 32 people were killed by a student at Virginia Tech University in April 2007.

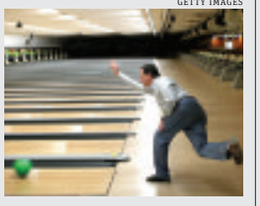
The three wounded victims had all been released from Highland Memorial Hospital in Oakland by midmorning yesterday. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Police officers carry the body of a victim after the shootings at a private religious college.

## News in brief

GETTY IMAGES



### Romney focuses on Obama as Santorum goes bowling

**WAUKESHA, WIS .** The leading rivals for the Republican nomination campaigned yesterday before Wisconsin's primary polls close with different missions: Mitt Romney focused on President Barack Obama and November's general election while Rick Santorum tried to stay viable.

Romney didn't mention Santorum as he expressed increasing confidence that he will claim his party's nomination. Favored to win today's other primaries in Maryland and Washington, D.C., Romney is counting on a victory in Wisconsin to intensify pressure on Santorum to end his candidacy. **BLOOMBERG**

### James Murdoch quits BSkyB

**LONDON.** James Murdoch resigned as chairman of BSkyB yesterday to prevent his links to a phone-hacking scandal that has convulsed his father Rupert's media empire undermining the pay TV group, whose broadcast licence is under scrutiny in Britain.

"I am aware that my role as chairman could become a lightning rod for BSkyB and I believe that my resignation will help to ensure that there is no false conflation with events at a separate organization." **REUTERS**

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## Note on 'bias'

Being political editorialists, we are particularly prone to all manner of nasty accusations. One of the worst insults hurled our direction by confused readers is that we are "Obama shills," that we disseminate biased falsehoods based solely on perceived political gains for our president. This is just untrue: Categorizing critique of one party's extreme wrongheadedness as an endorsement of any other is, as Mr. Obama might say, a false equivalency.

Does disdain for Republicans signal support for Democrats? Of course not. Can one fear both bears and nuclear-armed bears? We'd say that's an imperative.

We happen to think that Obama is a phony; that he's full of empty promises; that his policies will undermine U.S. freedom and economic prosperity for years to come.

And that his GOP rivals, if given half a chance, would only do much, much worse.

JIM WATSON/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ President Obama took aim at Republican ideals like trickle-down economics, deregulation and austerity.

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# Obama the campaigner

President Obama entered full-on campaign mode yesterday, responding to Republican budget priorities with a big speech full of feisty rhetoric framing political dysfunction in Washington as a function of radical GOP intransigence.

Addressing last week's Paul Ryan budget proposal, Obama argued that blame for the gap between the two parties is due to the rapid rightward extremism of the Republican party.

"They have proposed a budget so far to the right it makes the Contract for America look like the New Deal," he said. "In fact, that renowned liberal, Newt Gingrich, first called the original version of the budget radical. He said it would contribute to right-wing social engineering. ... This is now the party's governing platform."

**"Disguised as a deficit reduction plan, it's really an attempt to impose a radical vision on our country. It's nothing but thinly veiled social Darwinism."** OBAMA

Obama drew a contrast not just between Republicans and Democrats, but also with the Republican party of today and that of years past, accusing modern conservatives of an eagerness to cut social programs while completely refusing any possibility of increased tax revenues on the nation's most wealthy.

"For generations, nearly all of these investments [social programs like Social Security and unemployment insurance] ... have been supported by people in both parties," Obama intoned. But no longer: "Instead of moderating their views even slightly, the Republicans running Congress right now have doubled down."

Clearly the president hopes voters buy into his message and do some doubling down of their own.

*Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.*

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**48-HOUR DISTRIBUTION:** These seldom seen full uncut sheets of new $1 bills are being moved from the private vaults of the World Reserve Monetary Exchange for immediate distribution to NYC area residents. Residents who beat the 48-hour order deadline to get the vault stacks containing three protective bankers portfolios for just twenty-nine dollars per portfolio are getting the valuable uncut sheets of never circulated $1 bills for just face value. That's a real steal because only the first 6,049 residents whose zip code appears on the Distribution List are getting the Vault Stacks full of real money just by calling 1-888-248-7476 to beat the 48-hour deadline.

# NYC area zip codes turn up cash for residents

*Valuable Gov't issued uncut sheets of money are actually being handed over to the first 6,049 callers who find their zip code on the distribution list to the right and beat the 48-hour deadline to get Vault Stacks full of real money*

**VALUABLE:** Pictured to the left are the Vault Stacks containing three protective bankers portfolios, each loaded with a valuable uncut sheet of never circulated $1 bills. It's impossible to predict how much the bills will be worth in the future. But, since the Gov't has already shut down printing in 2006 on some uncut sheets of money, smart collectors are snatching up all the valuable uncut sheets of Gov't issued money they can get their hands on, so you better believe at just twenty-nine dollars and shipping the bankers portfolio is a real steal since the first 6,049 callers who beat the 48-hour order deadline are getting the valuable U.S. Gov't issued uncut sheet of money for just face value.

**By Keith Berrymore**
UNIVERSAL MEDIA SYNDICATE

UMS – NYC area residents who find their zip code on the Distribution List will feel like they just won the lottery.

That's because for the next 48 hours, full uncut sheets of never circulated $1 bills are being released by the World Reserve not to banks, not to dealers and not just to the rich and famous, but directly to NYC area residents who beat the order deadline.

The only thing residents need to do is look for their zip code on the Distribution List printed in today's publication. If their zip code appears on the list, they need to immediately call the Distribution Hotline before the 48-hour deadline to get the Vault Stack containing three protective bankers portfolios each loaded with its own full uncut sheet of never circulated $1 bills. But only the first 6,049 residents whose zip code appears on the Distribution List can even get the Vault Stacks containing three protective bankers portfolios full of real money.

"The money is being released until our last remaining uncut sheets of $1 bills

are completely gone," said Jefferson Marshall, Executive Director of the private World Reserve.

"That's why we've set up a Toll Free Distribution Hotline to make sure residents get them now," he said.

"But everything in our vault may soon be gone. So residents who want to get the uncut sheets of never circulated $1 bills had better hurry and call right now," Marshall said.

Those who get in on this now will be the really smart ones. Just think what they could be worth someday.

"Rare uncut sheets of real Gov't issued currency have sold at prestigious auction houses for thousands of dollars. Currency values always fluctuate, and there are never any guarantees. But at just twenty-nine dollars the bankers portfolio is a real steal since the first 6,049 callers who beat the 48-hour deadline are getting the valuable U.S. Gov't issued uncut sheet of money for just face value," Marshall said.

"You would expect to only see uncut money sheets on display in the Oval Office or under guard at the Smithsonian," he said.

"In fact, they are so seldom seen, banks don't even have them. That's why I've issued a directive to release a limited number of never circulated uncut sheets of valuable $1 bills from our private vault reserve to residents of the NYC area. Residents whose zip code is not on the Distribution List can't have our Vault Stacks of these full uncut sheets of $1 bills," Marshall said.

"These full uncut sheets of $1 bills will be highly sought after and are extremely popular to hand out as gifts for friends and family," he said.

Most people have never even seen one of these full uncut sheets of four never circulated bills.

"We're bracing for all the calls. With just hours left, we're doing our best to make sure NYC area residents get through. But, it is important that residents find their zip code on the Distribution List and call the Toll Free Hotline right away to beat the deadline. Because when our release is over, it's over," he said.

"We're allowing residents whose zip code appears on the Distribution List to claim as many as 10 Vault Stacks. But, since you can't get these Vault Stacks containing three protective bankers portfolios full of uncut sheets of money at banks, credit unions or even the Federal Reserve the limits will be strictly enforced," Marshall said.

"So, residents who want these full uncut sheets of real money need to call right now. If lines are busy keep trying, we promise to answer all calls," he said. ■

■ **FULL UNCUT SHEETS:** Above is one of the valuable full uncut sheets of never circulated $1 bills that are actually being released to NYC area residents. These crisp seldom seen uncut sheets of real money are being released on a first come, first served basis. That's why NYC area residents whose zip code appears on the Distribution List need to call 1-888-248-7476 right away with **Dept. Code ON788** to get the Vault Stacks containing three protective bankers portfolios full of real money since they're only being released by the World Reserve through this offer for the next 48 hours.

# How to get the money

The Toll Free Distribution Hotline opens at 8:30am today for NYC area residents only. The World Reserve has authorized the release of full uncut sheets of never circulated $1 bills to residents who beat the 48-hour deadline. If lines are busy, keep trying all calls will be answered. If you miss the deadline you'll be turned away from this offer and forced to wait for future announcements in this publication or others, if any.

The only thing readers need to do is find their zip code on the Distribution List below and be one of the first 6,049 residents who call and beat the order deadline to get the Vault Stack containing three protective bankers portfolios, for just $29 per portfolio and shipping are getting the valuable uncut sheets of never circulated $1 bills for just face value. There is a strict limit of 10 Vault Stacks per household. To get yours call the Toll Free Hotline number below.

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| 06820 | 07114 | 10002 | 10020 | 10038 | 10573 | 11106 | 11225 | 11364 | 11418 |
| 06854 | 07201 | 10003 | 10021 | 10039 | 10580 | 11201 | 11226 | 11365 | 11419 |
| 06870 | 07302 | 10004 | 10022 | 10044 | 10583 | 11203 | 11229 | 11366 | 11421 |
| 06880 | 07306 | 10005 | 10023 | 10128 | 10591 | 11205 | 11230 | 11367 | 11423 |
| 06901 | 07308 | 10006 | 10024 | 10463 | 10601 | 11206 | 11231 | 11368 | 11428 |
| 06902 | 07309 | 10007 | 10025 | 10510 | 10603 | 11209 | 11234 | 11369 | 11432 |
| 07030 | 07310 | 10009 | 10026 | 10520 | 10706 | 11210 | 11235 | 11370 | 11433 |
| 07047 | 07399 | 10010 | 10027 | 10522 | 10707 | 11211 | 11238 | 11372 | 11434 |
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| 07070 | 07423 | 10012 | 10029 | 10530 | 10801 | 11215 | 11355 | 11374 | 11451 |
| 07072 | 07430 | 10013 | 10031 | 10533 | 10803 | 11217 | 11356 | 11375 | |
| 07087 | 07446 | 10014 | 10032 | 10538 | 11101 | 11218 | 11357 | 11377 | |
| 07093 | 07452 | 10016 | 10033 | 10543 | 11102 | 11220 | 11358 | 11378 | |
| 07094 | 07652 | 10017 | 10035 | 10550 | 11103 | 11222 | 11360 | 11414 | |
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myentertainment

# THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

## The feed ...

**Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.**

Neil Patrick Harris has a ridiculous amount of Twitter followers, Chris Colfer is a hazard in the kitchen, Oprah Winfrey thinks you should calm down and Sarah Silverman is learning a thing or two.

**@ActuallyNPH**
I wanna give my 3 millionth (!) follower something cool. How would one quantify that? Is there some sort of log?

**@chriscolfer**
When I cook it's pretty dangerous...

**@Oprah**
Anyone tried meditation? Keeps the peace inside yourself.

**@SarahKSilverman**
Adele's taught us that u don't have to be skinny to be a music star- u just have to be the most beautiful woman in the world ever.

Winfrey

# Levi Johnston strikes again

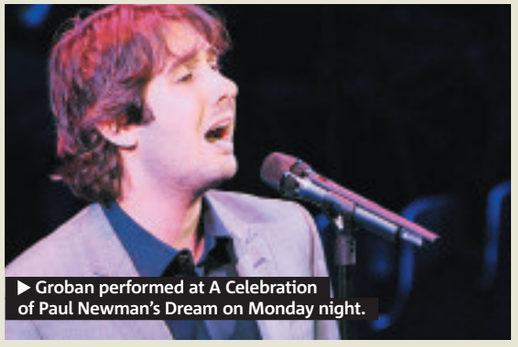
Johnston's johnson strikes again!

**Levi Johnston**, a high-school dropout who is famous for knocking up someone kind of famous from an infamous political family, is using his super sperm to get back into the news (and menstrual) cycle: It was announced yesterday that the 21-year-old is expecting a baby with his Wasilla, Ala., schoolteacher girlfriend, **Sunny Oglesby**, 20. She is allegedly three months pregnant.

TMZ.com reports that Johnston is "so excited" about having a new baby out of wedlock since **Bristol Palin** (along with her mom and dad) hasn't been too accommodating about him seeing his son **Tripp**.

I know Alaska is remote, but if **Sarah Palin** could see Russia from her house, how hard could it be for Johnston to spot a stack of Trojans at the Rite Aid?

## Singing camp songs with Josh Groban



▶ Groban performed at A Celebration of Paul Newman's Dream on Monday night.

The stars came out for A Celebration of **Paul Newman**'s Dream on Monday night at New York City's Lincoln Center to pay tribute to the late actor and his SeriousFun Children's Network, which sends sick children around the world to summer camp. Though performer **Trisha Yearwood** told us she had never spent her summers by the campfire, and **Elvis Costello** didn't take part across the pond ("They didn't have them in England. They barely had tent pegs," he said), we did get to hear about singer **Josh Groban**'s warm weather adventures.

"One of the reasons I'm here tonight is because my summer camp experience was so awesome," he told Metro. "One was in Maine and one was in Michigan. [One] was called Interlochen and the other one was called Camp Winona. I canoed and I did archery and I sang; I was in theater there. It was just great."

But Groban's just being humble. That would be the famed Interlochen Arts Camp in Michigan he's referring to, which is kind of like the summer camp version of Juilliard. So even as a boy, he was melting the hearts of people everywhere with that voice of his. — *With additional reporting by Meredith Engel*

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

## Talking points

▶ Rihanna wants to portray Whitney Houston in a biopic about the late singer.

### Brand gives it all to Perry

**Russell Brand** was apparently serious when he said he didn't want anything from **Katy Perry** in their divorce, as the British comedian has reportedly given Perry all the rights to the $6.5 million Hollywood Hills home they purchased while married, according to TMZ. "It's all part of the property settlement agreed between Russell and Katy," a source says. Perry and Brand snatched up the eight-bedroom, nine-bathroom home six months before Brand filed for divorce. They had no signed prenuptial agreement.

### Kutcher fights with Bieber over home

**Ashton Kutcher** has been enjoying his rented Hollywood Hills bachelor pad so much that he decided to buy it, according to TMZ. So what spurred the sudden decision? Competition from **Justin Bieber**, who was reportedly eyeing the $10.8 million property. "I had to buy the house, because I thought he was going to buy it out from under me," Kutcher joked during an interview with **Jimmy Kimmel**. "I was like, 'I don't want to lose this house.' He forced me to buy a house."

### Winfrey can admit when she's wrong

**Oprah Winfrey** admits she's made some mistakes in the early days of her new TV network, OWN. "Had I known that it was this difficult, I might have done something else," Winfrey said in an interview with the CBS "Early Show" this week. "I didn't think it was going to be easy — but if I knew then what I know now, I might have made different choices. If I were writing a book about it, I could call the book '101 Mistakes.'" So what would Winfrey do differently, knowing what she knows now? "I would have probably waited until I actually finished 'The Oprah Show,'" she says.

### Rihanna to tackle Houston?

**Rihanna** has her sights set on the role of a lifetime: playing **Whitney Houston** in a biopic about the late singer. "That would be something that I would have to give my entire life to do, because I would really want to pull it off," she tells the Press Association. "My first song that I remember falling in love with was a Whitney Houston song: 'I Will Always Love You.' It was really inspiring, and it made me develop a passion for music. So really, she's partly responsible for me being here in this industry." Of course, first there needs to be a movie to star in, and while producer **Clive Davis** was reportedly putting one together, his rep has shot down that rumor, saying, "There is no truth to this."

# Girls with mics — and a man in a tie

**1. Santigold** (check out her crown!) opened for the Red Hot Chili Peppers at BankAtlantic Center on Monday in Sunrise, Fla.

**2. Kylie Minogue** rocked the opening night of her Anti-Tour U.K. tour at Manchester Academy on Sunday in Manchester.

**3. Megalyn Echikunwoke** attended the after-party for the screening of "Damsels in Distress" at the Soho Grand Hotel on Monday in New York City.

**4.** Former NBA star **Shaquille O'Neal** attended the 24th annual Evening of the Stars gala at the Prudential Center on Monday in Newark, N.J.

**5. Rihanna** attended the "Battleship" press conference on the USS George Washington on Monday in Yokosuka, Japan. The film will open on April 13 in Japan.

**6. Kate Bosworth** attended the premiere of "Life Happens" on Monday in Century City, Calif.

1: LARRY MARANO/GETTY IMAGES
2: NEIL LUPIN/REDFERNS VIA GETTY IMAGES
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myentertainment

# 8 Fairy-tale characters that are dressed the best — and worst

**'Mirror Mirror' hit theaters last weekend Aside from the fact that it stars Julia Roberts in what could be her campiest role ever, the big draw is the movie's parade of elaborate costumes But Roberts' Evil Queen is hardly the first fairy-tale character to work a fierce wardrobe**

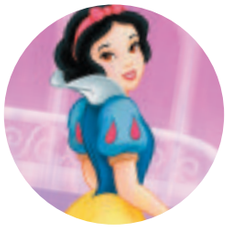
## The best

### 1. The Evil Queen

Oscar-winning costume designer Eiko Ishioka went big — we mean really big — for Snow White's latest outing in "Mirror Mirror." Her costumes for Julia Roberts' Evil Queen steal the show with their couture-like proportions, measuring more than 6 feet in circumference and using a whopping 25 to 35 yards of fabric.

### 2. Queen Ravenna

Because 2012 is the year of Snow White, this list is not complete without Charlize Theron's Queen Ravenna. Her villain in "Snow White and the Huntsman" — out later this summer and also starring Kristen Stewart — stays immaculately turned out in all manner of intimidatingly grand gowns and chunky statement jewels.



### 3. Snow White, version one

Jet-black hair, china doll features, rouge lips and puff ball sleeves — Disney's original 1937 princess became the stuff of little girls' obsessions and timeless Halloween costumes. Not to mention the lemon-colored bottom half to her iconic dress is so on trend right now.

### 4. Cinderella

Blame her for the modern-day obsession with makeovers. In an instant, the girl goes from house slave to flaxen-haired babe in a powder-blue ball gown. But it's the shoes that have landed Cinderella on this list — because before Christian Louboutin went transparent and sparkly, Cinderella did it first.

### 5. The Mad Hatter

Johnny Depp's take on the character in Tim Burton's "Alice in Wonderland" looked like an eccentric uncle on magic mushrooms with his floppy bow tie, disheveled Savile Row tailoring and slightly crazy look in the eyes. Either that, or a model straight out of a Vivienne Westwood show.

METRO

## The worst

- **Fezzik:** Who can forget Andre the Giant's lovable character in "The Princess Bride," with those mutton chops and that frizzy fro? The man's a giant cliche in his raggedy shirt, baggy pants, broad belt and boots — but would you like him as much if he were a fashion plate?
- **Aurora:** In part, you can blame the woman best known as "Sleeping Beauty" for the fact that manufacturers always use that same shade of cotton candy pink for girls' toys. If Paris Hilton stepped back in time a good 50 years, she might be dressed like this — with a slightly shorter hemline.

- **Shrek:** Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. But there's no getting around that belt, stretched to its bursting point, and the muffin top bubbling above it. He'd probably be less cranky if he'd just bought better-fitting pants.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# 'Titanic' sets sail in 3-D

▶ Billy Zane and Kate Winslet are seen in the original "Titanic." The 3-D version of the film hits theaters today.

It's been 15 years since "Titanic" reduced us all to sobbing wrecks and smashed box-office records. Today, James Cameron's classic is being reissued in eye-popping 3-D, and we caught up with its sharp-suited villain Cal Hockley, also known as actor Billy Zane.

**How did the original "Titanic" change your life?**

It was an incredible calling card. "Titanic" was an invitation to the tables of sovereign leaders for whatever you wanted to leverage, in my case charities. It was a great honor to be canonized in the pantheon of significant movies.

**Having played such a villain, are you worried about a new wave of unpopularity with the 3-D release?**

Been there, done that, I'm well versed from the first time. There's been a new perspective on Cal. Perhaps revisiting the movie has helped people see him through a different lens and have more sympathy.

**You're not experiencing hostility?**

Men say I was terrible and women are in two camps: The ones who were swept up in Leomania and can't believe I was in the way of true love, and the slyer ones with an appetite for jewelry who thought Rose was mad to leave Cal.

**Would you have liked anything about living in 1912?**

Life before cell phones! Also, the lost art of craftsmanship. I miss things being well made. Craftsmanship standards in general have fallen.

**How do you and the ocean get along?**

I forged my career at sea in "Dead Calm," where I played a nutter on a boat. I do well at sea, the boats just got bigger. In real life? It makes it very hard to charter one.

**What will audiences get out of this "Titanic" reissue?**

It depends what audience. Most have seen the film before, so they're going in with comforting expectation. It's much like seeing an anthem band from the 1980s; waiting for the big hit, fired up nostalgically for when the first chord hits and you're transported to a time and place. The device of 3-D allows the filmmaker to keep the audience off-balance — it's an unpredictable space that allows heartstrings to be manipulated.

**It's easy to forget this is all based on a historic tragedy. How has this affected you?**

More so than before. I saw a segment of the voyage I had never seen before. While watching it I had a very uneasy feeling. For the original, the tragedy hadn't hit me. We were always caught up in the artifice of film. Now it's different, I feel the weight.

**Does a real man make his own luck?**

But of course.

KIERON MONKS

METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

## TV watch list

### 'One Tree Hill'

**DRAMA.** Tree Hillers past and present gather to reminisce on where they've come from (high school basketball rivalries!) and where they're going (for some, just across the street) in the two-hour finale that caps nine seasons of this small-town soap opera.

**Series finale, 8 p.m., The CW**

FRED NORRIS/THE CW

▶ "One Tree Hill"

### 'Best Friends Forever'

**COMEDY.** This charming sitcom is about pals who stick it out through thick and thin — including testing the three's company rule when newly single Jessica (Jessica St. Clair) moves back into the apartment she used to share with Lennon (Lennon Parham), which is now also occupied by Lennon's boyfriend (Luka Jones).

**Series premiere, 8:30 p.m., NBC**

### 'Toddlers and Tiaras'

**REALITY.** The toddlers take Manhattan in an NYC-themed pageant. We're guessing the Statue of Liberty was passed over as inspiration, considering that dowdy dress she wears and her sickly shade of green.

**Season premiere, 10 p.m., TLC**

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# Rebirth of a 'Salesman'

## Latest 'Death of a Salesman' revival, starring Philip Seymour Hoffman and Andrew Garfield, is arguably the hottest nonmusical onstage now

BRIGITTE LACOMBE FOR NEW YORK MAGAZINE

▶ From left: Andrew Garfield stars as Biff, Finn Wittrock as Happy, Philip Seymour Hoffman as Willy and Linda Emond as Linda in "Death of a Salesman," now playing at Barrymore Theatre.

It's obvious as the curtain rises to reveal the skeletal silhouette of the Loman household first dreamt by designer Jo Mielziner in 1949: Instead of testing tricks of modern metaphor, this production of "Death of a Salesman" wisely settles on traditionalism.

But there's beauty building beyond the familiarity of the set or the known colloquial lyricism of Arthur Miller's script about the waning days of a disappointed salesman; it's seen in the introspective and interpersonal spaces between. It's the way one's eyes glance aside, or another's weight shifts from heel to heel, that is this show's greatest spectacle.

Main stages lately have been dedicated to the lives of the elite, but "Salesman" brings us back to modesty. Compared to, say, "Other Desert Cities," with its stiffness and practiced expressions, this feels like theater not only from another time, but from another world — rather than two streets north. Just before the closing curtain, there's a quiet moment in the show's controversial epilogue. It's underscored by the crying noises from both men and women in their seats and the rustle of belongings put aside to stand for the forthcoming ovation. We haven't heard this kind of call-and-response since "The Normal Heart."

**If you go**

▶ **'Death of a Salesman'**
**Barrymore Theatre**
**243 W. 47th St.**
**$47-$142, 212-239-6200**
**www.deathofasalesman broadway.com**

Discovering that Philip Seymour Hoffman is not the show's brightest star is almost akin to the titular salesman he plays learning that his type is a dime a dozen. It's instead an acting coup for Andrew Garfield, who is fastidious in his progressive dissection of the man's eldest son. Garfield plunges his hands fearlessly into the chest of this character to pull out and show us what he's made of — in a language today's Boomers and Millenials alike can understand. Countless men have seen their fathers in previous Willy Lomans; thanks to Garfield, they can face whether or not they find themselves in Biff. Even the outstanding Linda Emond, as the family's long-suffering matriarch, can't quite cast a shade like the theatrically inclined Garfield. We hope to see more of him on the stage, though it's hard to imagine what could follow a scene-stealing turn in a brilliant revival of "Death of a Salesman."

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# Nintendo gets tough

Sidescroller

LAWRENCE BONK
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Nintendo often gets pigeonholed as the "kiddy" company. The safe company. The company you can cuddle with all night long without getting steamy. Still, Nintendo isn't just Pikachus and lollipops. It can crank out true hardcore gaming experiences with the best of them. Why, here are two right now:

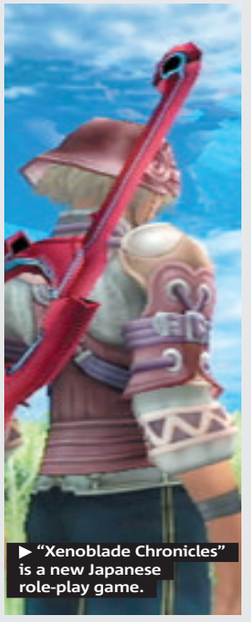
▶ Kid Icarus makes his comeback.

## 'Xenoblade Chronicles'

**Console:** Wii
**Company:** Nintendo
**Grade:** ❶❷❸❹❺

Nintendo was all set to deny North America this dose of JRPG goodness until a fan campaign changed its mind. Now we can enjoy the fruits of their labor and dust off the old Wii for one last, grand adventure.

In many ways, this feels like the epic "Final Fantasy" title we didn't get this generation. There is a lush world that is open and ready to be explored. There is lots and lots of story and plenty of dialog. Also, for those hesitant to embrace the genre, there are no random battles and a brilliant real-time combat system. It feels like a JRPG made for Western audiences. Clear your schedule, though. It takes more than 60 hours to beat.



▶ "Xenoblade Chronicles" is a new Japanese role-play game.

## 'Kid Icarus Uprising'

**Console:** 3DS
**Company:** Nintendo
**Grade:** ❶❷❸❹❺

Back in the Reaganized '80s, Nintendo released "Kid Icarus" for the NES. Fans thought the surreal take on Greek mythology was going to be another mega franchise like Zelda or Mario. Those fans are now middle-aged and bereft of any real interests, but their dream finally came true. "Kid Icarus Uprising" is the true sequel people have waited 25 years for, and it's a doozy.

The game is an odd mix of ground-based exploration with sky-based shooting. Consider it the beautiful marriage of Super Smash Bros. and Starfox. The controls take some getting used to, but the game's 90 difficulty levels (really) and near unlimited customization options more than make up for it. Playing online is a blast, too.

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mywellbeing

# Beat your allergies this year

**We got some expert tips on just how to get rid of your sniffles and itchy eyes You've got plenty of options**

When you have allergies, you know how tough it can be to make it through a spring day — let alone a spring hour.

"Your body's natural defenses are overreacting to substances that are usually not harmful," says Dr. Carol G. Baum, an allergist at New York City's ENT and Allergy Associates, about how allergic reactions start. And lately, as you've probably heard, the conditions for these springtime vexations are only getting worse.

"Every year we hear that this is the worst allergy season ever, but I think there is an understanding that with climate change our winters are warmer — and certainly that was the case this year," Dr. Baum says. "Because of that, the allergy seasons tend to start a little earlier and last a little longer, and also the pollen levels tend to be a little higher. All those things are a perfect storm for causing allergies."

Thankfully, you can find comfort amidst the budding trees. These ideas will make you breathe a little easier.

COMSTOCK

▶ Managing your allergies can be a walk in the park.

## Option A: Avoidance

Simply put: Learn your triggers and get out of their way. "If someone is allergic to pollen, I try to encourage them to run air-conditioning," Dr. Baum says. "If they're in the car, have the windows closed, run the air-conditioning. I always try to encourage people not to get a home close to a highway where there's a lot of pollutants. I try to encourage pets to be out of the home and certainly out of the bedroom — you spend a third of your life sleeping in a bedroom, [and] dander can get into the bedding."

## Option B: Medication

"There's a lot of medications available," Dr. Baum says. "They include oral antihistamines as well as topical antihistamines or steroids that may be applied as sprays to the nose or as drops to the eyes." The good news is you can find a combination that works best for you. "You can certainly take an antihistamine, you can certainly use a topical nasal spray, you can certainly use anti-inflammatory medication, you can at the same time get allergy shots," she adds. "They're not all mutually exclusive."

## Option C: Allergy shots

Allergen immunotherapy, or allergy shots, exposes your body to allergens in small doses. "You give minute amounts of the allergen very gradually, on a weekly basis, usually over a period of about six months," Dr. Baum says. "Then they get monthly injections for a period that can run usually between three and five years. What it's doing is basically making the patient tolerant to these allergens that they're exposed to so that they don't have these allergic reactions. It tends to be very effective."

### Last resorts

**Dr. Baum recommends oral steroids for severe cases that aren't responding to anything else. Surgery is another option.**

"Nasal allergies can lead to blockage of the sinuses, causing infections that may require surgery," says Dr. Baum.

## Option D: Neti pots

Don't fear these little contraptions. Dr. Travis Stork, an emergency doc and host of "The Doctors," assures us that their healing capabilities are legit.

"Your sinuses are interconnected. The saline water is going through your sinuses and washing them up. It's mechanically washing away all the congestion during spring allergy season — you're washing away allergens and pollen. It's very refreshing if you've been suffering from congestion."

And if you're a little squeamish about trying one for yourself, don't worry: You'll get used to it.

"Everyone's a little hesitant, because the first time you do it it's slightly awkward. But after the first time, it's like riding a bike. You have to commit the first time you do it to the fact that, OK, saline water is going in one nostril and out the other. The first time people do it they should do it in the shower. A great time to do it is at night before you go to bed. You can do it as much as you want. I do it every night."

Just make sure you use the right type of water: distilled or previously boiled, with a lukewarm temperature. "You want the water to be sterile," he says. That will ensure you avoid any weird bacteria getting into your system, which could have fatal results.

$15, Rite Aid

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## Today in medicine

### Catheter-based heart valve surgery

**Study subjects:** 358 patients at 21 medical centers
**Location of study:** U.S.
**Results:** A study printed in the May edition of the New England Journal of Medicine shows that patients diagnosed with aortic stenosis (narrowing of the heart valves) who were too sick for open-heart surgery do better with catheter-based heart valve replacement than standard treatments, like drugs.
**Significance:** Catheter-based heart valve surgery is a minimally invasive treatment that was developed over the last decade and has given aortic stenosis sufferers (about 2 to 9 percent of U.S. adults 65 and older) an alternative to open-heart surgery.

### Teens and sex ed

**Study subjects:** 4,691 men and women ages 15 to 24
**Location of study:** U.S.
**Results:** A Guttmacher Institute study, "Consequences of Sex Education on Teen and Young Adult Sexual Behaviors and Outcomes," found that teens who are given formal sex education before engaging in sexual practices exhibited healthier behaviors, like waiting to have sex and using birth control, than those not taught sex education.
**Significance:** The study indicates that thorough sex education taught before sexual activity is important for teens' healthy development and in preventing unwanted pregnancy and STDs.

ABLESTOCK.COM

▶ A recent study shows that sex ed in the classroom leads to healthier behaviors in the bedroom.

### IBS drugs

**Study subjects:** More than 800 people involved in clinical trials
**Location of study:** U.S.
**Results:** A study in the American Journal of Medicine found that the drugs rifaximin and lubiprostone are better options for more people when treating irritable bowel syndrome. Rifaximin, an FDA-approved antibiotic that treats traveler's diarrhea and hepatic encephalopathy, and lubiprostone, a drug that fosters gut lubrication, were found to have the fewest harmful side effects when compared to other drugs used to treat IBS.
**Significance:** IBS affects up to 20 percent of all Americans and symptoms include pain or cramps in the abdomen, excess gas or bloating and visible abdominal distension. Many IBS drugs cause their own undesirable side effects, such as nausea, insomnia, palpitations and decreased appetite.

### Diabetic men at risk

**Study subjects:** 64,000 eligible subjects from the REACH registry, which tracks patients at a high risk for heart problems
**Location of study:** U.S.
**Results:** A Brigham and Women's Hospital study found that men without a history of cardiovascular disease who treated their type 2 diabetes with insulin were at a higher risk for death, heart attack and stroke than men with a history of cardiovascular disease.
**Significance:** These figures indicate that as the number of patients with type 2 diabetes requiring insulin continues to increase, cardiovascular risk for otherwise heart-healthy patients may also rise.

LINDA CLARKE

## Pro diet tips

Ever wonder how so many chefs make a career out of eating and still stay thin? Author Allison Adato did too. She reached out to big-name cooks like Marcus Samuelsson, Tom Colicchio and Jacques Torres (who makes chocolate for a living!) to learn their secrets for her book, "Smart Chefs Stay Slim." Among her findings: Cat Cora and Wolfgang Puck cook healthy meals for their kids (and then eat those same meals with them), and Eric Ripert has a bite of dark chocolate just about each day. Bonus: The book is peppered with recipes from the star chefs themselves. METRO/ME

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# How to pick the right OTC meds

BRAND X PICTURES

▶ Unsure of what to take? Make sure you pick up a medicine that treats only your symptoms.

Choosing an over-the-counter (nonprescription) remedy for what ails you generally depends on the cause and type of symptoms you experience. Cold and flu viruses generally cause illness that may be characterized by fever, headache, body aches, nasal congestion, sore throat and coughs. Symptoms usually follow an up-and-down course over seven to 10 days, and resolve completely after 14 to 21 days.

Seasonal allergies, also known as Hay Fever, are the body's immune response to environmental irritants — usually tree and flower pollen in the spring. Red or itchy and watery eyes, nasal congestion, sneezing and a dry cough may plague allergy-sufferers.

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**DR. MARK MELROSE**

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## The question

▶ This year, flu season started late and allergy season came early. There are so many choices and combinations of cold, flu, sinus and allergy medicines at the drug store — it's confusing. How do I know what to take?

Over-the-counter remedies are generally divided and marketed by the symptom(s) they treat. Many products combine ingredients, so you might see the following on a label: "Cold and Flu," "Cold and Sinus," "Cold and Cough," "Sinus and Pain," "Allergy Sinus," etc. This is where confusion comes in.

It is important to be familiar with the individual ingredients in each product, so that you treat the symptoms of your illness or allergy appropriately. Take only the medication needed for your symptoms, and don't accidentally overdose with a double dose if there is overlap between products. Knowing what medications are safe to take with underlying medical conditions is also important, so always ask your doctor or pharmacist before taking an over-the-counter remedy.

**Fever/pain/headache:** These symptoms all result from inflammatory substances released by white blood cells that fight infection or respond to allergy-inducing pollen. Acetaminophen (Tylenol), aspirin and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS) like ibuprofen (Advil or Motrin) and naproxen (Aleve) are the most common drugs for relieving these systemic symptoms. They work by blocking various chemicals that cause inflammation and pain.

**Decongestants:** Relief of nasal congestion from colds and allergies is accomplished by drugs that shrink the blood vessels and decrease swelling in irritated nasal passages. These come in tablet and nasal spray form. Pseudoephedrine and phenylephrine are the most common oral forms (the "D" in combination products). Oxymetazoline (Afrin) and neosynephrine are the most common spray ingredients.

**Antihistamines:** Histamine is a chemical released by cells fighting allergies and infections, causing increased secretion of mucous in airways. Antihistamines help to block the production and release of histamine, thereby decreasing secretions. These come in oral tablets and liquids, nasal sprays and eye drops. Common drugs include the old school "drowsy" variety (the "P.M." in combo products) diphenhydramine (Benadryl), chlorpheniramine, brompheniramine and doxylamine, and non-drowsy forms like loratadine, cetirizine and fexofenadine (Claritin, Zyrtec and Allegra, respectively).

**Expectorants and cough suppressants:** An expectorant makes mucous secretions more watery and easier to expel when you cough or blow your nose. The most common expectorant in capsules and liquids is guaifenesin (Robitussin or Mucinex). Dextromethorphan ("DM" in combo products) is a synthetic codeine-like substance that decreases the sensitivity of the coughing reflex, suppressing the urge to cough.

If you are sick or suffering from allergies and are unsure about what to take, ask your pharmacist for a recommendation or advice. Pharmacists are trained professionals and should be happy to help you decide.

*— **Mark Melrose**, DO, is a board-certified emergency physician at Urgent Care Manhattan. E-mail him your questions at **askdrmark@metro.us**.*

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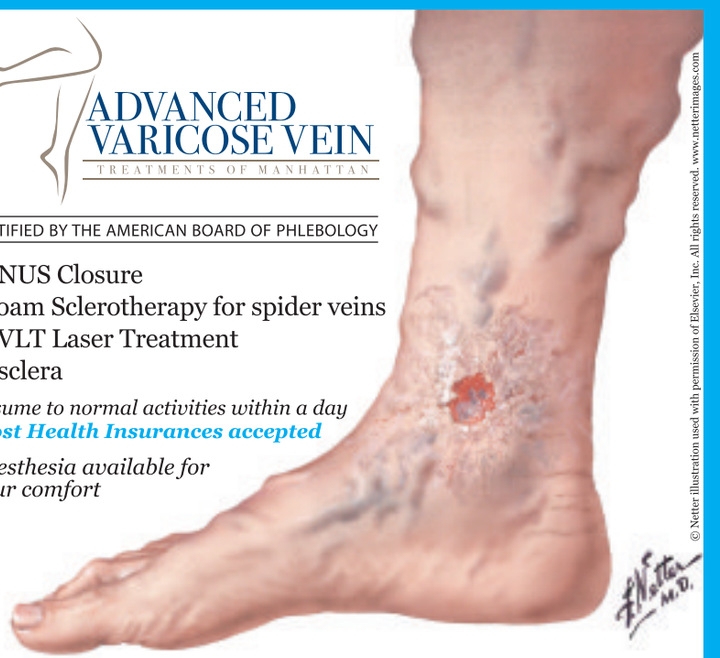

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# Letters

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## Too much of a good thing? Very bad

**RE: "CARBON DIOXIDE IS NECESSARY FOR ALL PLANT LIFE TO PRODUCE OXYGEN":** According to Mr. Dupont, evidently, we should let coal plants just keep going — and hell, why not even let them burn more because plants use carbon dioxide to make oxygen? Well, Mr. Dupont, the human body needs water to survive, so I assume as well that you would like everyone to drink their body's weight in water every day. (FYI: This would result in death due to water toxicity.) Just because something is good and needed in certain amounts doesn't mean you can increase the amount 500-fold and not have negative consequences. I would also like to point out to Mr. Dupont that we also are still cutting down large amounts of the rain forest, which — as I am sure he knows being an expert on photosynthesis — is responsible for the majority of the carbon dioxide absorbtion in the world, resulting in lower and lower CO2-to-O2 conversion. So if you want to bash Obama then please feel free, all I ask is that you pick something true and don't twist it with insane and false logic into a horrible parody of a scientific fact to back up the disproved idea of fossil fuels being super awesome for Earth. **DOUG BROWN, VIA E-MAIL**

Joseph Dupont's third-grade understanding of science leads him to state that we needn't worry about carbon dioxide, since it's necessary for plant life to produce oxygen. Did you know that hydrochloric acid is necessary for us to digest food? Or that sulfur compounds are essential components of amino acids that allow us to live? Would we want these chemicals building up in large quantities in our atmosphere? No. **ALBERT FRENTE, VIA E-MAIL**

The need to further educate our populous in basic science/history is clearly shown in some of these Metro letters. **COLLIN TUKAY, VIA E-MAIL**

Joseph DuPont says carbon dioxide is needed for plant life to produce oxygen. True, but carbon monoxide is needed to be released by the oil and coal industries to reap obscene profits while polluting our environment. What a coincidence that Mr. DuPont shares his last name with a company that has a record as one of the worst polluters in history. **ROBERT LA ROSA, WHITESTONE**

## On a wish and a prayer: Unhealthy

**RE: "IT COMES DOWN TO FAITH: PRAYER WORKS":** "There is no evidence that prayer does not help those who are ill." Is that seriously an argument, that something is true unless affirmatively disproved? Society is doomed. **MARY SMITH, VIA E-MAIL**

I've sore news: There actually is evidence that prayer does not help those who are ill. A major study found no medical benefits for those randomized to be included in prayers after heart surgery. Even if this finding was not the case, the human animal would do well to realize what prayer truly is — talking and wishing to oneself. Or, as in a group, talking and wishing among others. The mind is unique and transformative, no doubt, and we should take full, unabashed ownership of this fact. **STEVEN AHERN, VIA E-MAIL**

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

# Horoscope

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** There is an abundance of opportunities around you — but unless something in particular interests you, you're likely to ignore them all. Don't let this be a do-nothing day.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Although you have an abundance of friends with whom to share the day, there is likely to be one ineffective acquaintance who will serve as a detractor. Don't let him or her spoil the fun.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** If you find yourself devoting too much time to trivial activities, put a stop to it as early in the day as you can. Once you get in gear, you can accomplish all your big objectives.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Even if your reasoning skills aren't as sharp as they usually are, you'll still be alert enough to get a reasonable amount done in a successful manner. It should be a decent day for you.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Your chances for generating substantial material returns are excellent but, of course, it will be up to you to actually do so. Don't just talk a good game, jump in and play.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Others will verify that you're the one who is making a major contribution to a joint endeavor, yet you won't see it.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Trust your luck, because developments over which you seem to have little control will be the ones that shower you with the largest rewards.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Avail yourself of a new organization or club that will give you a chance to mingle and meet with a number of influential people. Some of these big shots could become your buddies.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** When it comes to career-related issues, don't hide your light under a bushel. If you believe that you have a constructive idea to contribute, make your concept known.

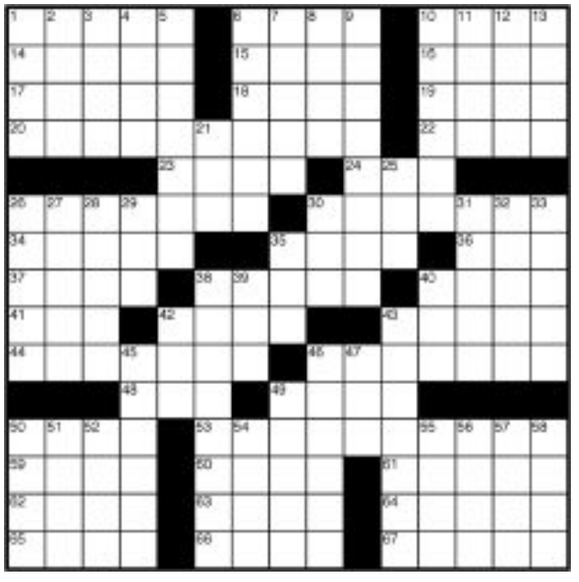
♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Whether or not you believe your social life is at a high point, there are some strong indicators that it is about to get even better. Someone fascinating and dynamic is about to enter the scene.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** A transformation that you've been wishing would take place is about to happen. It will not only benefit you, but your loved ones or a close buddy as well.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** You might have a hard time believing it, but if you stand back a minute you would see that it is not only the other fella who is getting all the concessions — it's you, too. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

**Across**
1 Fallback strategy (2 wds.)
6 St. Louis gateway
10 Warrior princess
14 Mead subject
15 Seneca's student
16 Hearty loaves
17 "Don't tell __ __!"
18 Piggy's dinner
19 Fringe __
20 Reconsider (2 wds.)
22 Coastal flier
23 With, to Maurice
24 Membership dues
26 Conference
30 Snuggled
34 Collect
35 Two pounds, plus
36 S&L offering
37 "B.C." cartoonist
38 Hotel staffers
40 Pooch's comment
41 A crowd, for Caesar?
42 Force
43 Owned apartment
44 Not subtle
46 Gander (hyph.)
48 __ -Wan Kenobi
49 Volcano goddess
50 Elapse
53 Pond makers (2 wds.)
59 Whiffenpoofs
60 Doing nothing
61 Terra __
62 Hamster's digs
63 Hull bottom
64 Smooths out
65 Cell-phone button
66 Boundaries
67 No rocket scientist

**Down**
1 11th-grade exam
2 Tie down
3 Mine, to Pierre
4 Any thing
5 Albania, Bulgaria
6 Grab the phone
7 Keepsake
8 Gator kin
9 Starlets, e.g.
10 Adult (hyph.)
11 Rochester's Jane
12 Not e'en once
13 Strong __ __ ox
21 Rural elec. provider
25 Ancient Tokyo
26 Raj title
27 Modern memo
28 "They Call the Wind __"
29 Devotee
30 Scotland Yard div.
31 Wildebeest chasers
32 Carve a canyon
33 Actor Willem __
35 First-aid box
38 Small motorcycle
39 Colony member
40 Stir-fry pan
42 Tiny bit
43 Strong-armed
45 Flung
46 Razes
47 Oxford's __ Miss
49 Turned white
50 Bodybuilder's pride
51 Wings, in botany
52 Omen
54 Utopia
55 Went in headfirst
56 Ra's symbol
57 Natural elevs.
58 Business letter encl.



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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

**Solution to yesterday's crossword**

**How to play Sudoku:** Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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3

## Good day, bad day

**Good day**
The Giants don't have to worry about Victor Cruz holding out according to the Pro Bowl receiver.

Cruz, who stands to make a paltry $540,000 this season, said the word holdout "is not in my vocabulary."

Cruz set the Giants team record last season with 1,536 receiving yards.

**Bad day**
One marijuana arrest is bad enough. But two in two days?

One day after Lions RB Mikel Leshoure was arrested for marijuana possession, NT Nick Fairley was arrested for the same yesterday.

The Lions drafted Fairley and Leshoure in the first two rounds of the 2011 draft.

LEN REDKOLES/NHLI/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Brandon Prust and the Rangers beat the Flyers into submission in a division and conference clinching victory last night.

5
RANGERS (51-22-7)

3
FLYERS (46-25-9)

# WE ARE NO. 1

### Rangers clinch best record in Eastern Conference in a rout of Flyers ◗ Blueshirts run out to 4-0 lead in first ◗ Lundqvist stars in net as usual

**PHILADELPHIA.** Brandon Prust stood triumphant over a fallen Zac Rinaldo at center ice, moments after the Rangers left winger had decisively decisioned the Philadelphia center in a first-period fight.

It was a symbolic scene — a living, breathing portrait of the Rangers' dominance over the Flyers, both on the ice last night and over the course of the season.

**15** The Rangers are now 15-6-2 against Atlantic Division rivals this season, including a sweep of the Flyers.

The Rangers will have home ice advantage throughout the Eastern Conference playoffs following their 5-3 win over Philadelphia last night. The win clinched the Rangers' first Atlantic Division and Eastern Conference regular season championships since 1993-94.

The Rangers' 51 wins are second most in franchise history. The 1993-94 team won 52 regular season games.

Henrik Lundqvist (37 saves) was brilliant early in winning his career-high 39th game. His diving, cross-crease robbery of Wayne Simmonds 2:01 into the game caused the Flyers' wing to stare to the sky in frustration.

Lundqvist stymied the Flyers' initial surge and his mates responded with an offensive explosion. Ryan McDonagh, Brian Boyle, Artem Anisimov and Ryan Callahan tallied goals in a span of 12:13 to send the Rangers into the first intermission with a 4-0 lead.

**DENIS GORMAN**
sports@metro.us

## What went right ...

**1 Bryz-aster —** On Monday, Ilya Bryzgalov was named the NHL's Player of the Month in March for posting a 10-2-1 record. Last night, he reverted to the form that saw him enter the game with a 0-2 record, 4.11 GAA and .869 save percentage in two games versus the Rangers.

**2 Net victory —** That Henrik Lundqvist is the presumptive Vezina Trophy winner and a Hart candidate should not surprise anyone who has seen his play this year. Lundqvist was good in the division and conference clinching win. He made 13 saves in the first period.

**3 Spread it out —** Twelve Rangers recorded at least one point and six Rangers were plus-one or better. Ryan McDonagh and Marian Gaborik finished with two points each.

METRO/DG

## Pettitte plans to make debut vs. Mets today

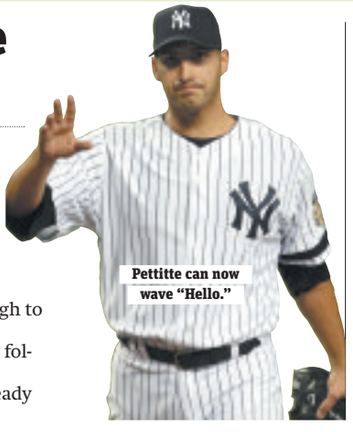
Yankees starting pitcher Andy Pettitte will end his one-year retirement today.

The lefty plans to see time in the team's final spring training game against the Mets at George M. Steinbrenner Field. The plan is for Pettitte to pitch one inning.

"I bounced back pretty good after that last one, so we feel like an inning would be good tomorrow," Pettitte told reporters yesterday. "I realized I feel good enough to pitch."

**11** Pettitte went 11-3 in 2010 for the Yankees — the last time he pitched in the majors.

Pettitte is expected to follow a routine similar to spring training and be ready to start by May. METRO



Pettitte can now wave "Hello."

## D-Will hints he is likely to test out free agency

Nets point guard Deron Williams told Yahoo! Sports he is likely to test the free agent waters once this season is up.

"I didn't ask to be here. I got traded," Williams said. "I didn't come here being a free agent. This is the first time that I'm a free agent in my career."

Williams has an opt-out clause in his contract that would allow him to sign with any team this offseason.

**28** Williams will be 28 years old when the next NBA season gets under way.

The Nets made a play for Dwight Howard at the trade deadline in order to entice Williams to stay, but that obviously came up short.

Now, it sounds like he is gone. METRO

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# SPRING GOLF ROUNDUP

**In 2012, change is good! Adjustability has been the rage for several seasons now, but manufacturers are producing in numbers that prove adjustable clubs aren't going away Nearly all the top brands are offering some level of customization on their drivers We're now seeing it creep into putters, as well**

## The products

**1. Heavy Putter belly & long $199-249, www.boccierigolf.com**
The Heavy Putter's advantage is it didn't need to be re-engineered to convert into a belly or long putter. The heavy weight engages the body's larger, more stable muscles to promote stability, consistency and control on the greens.

**2. TaylorMade R11s $399, www.taylormadegolf.com**
TaylorMade unleashed a huge hit with last year's R11, and this season's R11s, with three-way adjustability, promises even more distance. The white heads are now so common on Tour that the novelty is gone, and golfers have clearly bought into this modern look. For better players, the TP line offers some of the best shaft options out there.

**3. Callaway RAZR Fit $399, www.callawaygolf.com**
Callaway was an early adopter of adjustable clubs; the iMix system allowed golfers to easily swap shafts in and out. The second-generation adjustable driver, the RAZR Fit, allows fine tuning of the face angle and weighting. The classic head marries traditional looks with the latest technology.

**4. Adams Fast12 $249.99, www.adamsgolf.com**
The Velocity Slot on this fairway wood is designed to promote a trampoline-like effect to increase ball speed and provide more forgiveness throughout the face.

**5. Odyssey Flip Face $350, www.odysseygolf.com**
Putters are getting in on the fun. Using different materials in each insert, Odyssey created a putter that allows you to flip the face and adjust for the speed of the greens you're playing that day.

**6. Zero Restriction Tour Lite II $295 and up, www.zerorestriction.com**
Top-of-the-line rain gear lasts years, and there's no better maker than Zero Restriction. The Tour Lite II features GORE-TEX for a light, breathable jacket and pants. Every aspect of the suit is designed for comfort.

**7. Sun Mountain Sync $199, www.sunmountain.com**
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**8. Ecco Biom Hybrid $190, www.ecco.com**
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**NBA.** Knicks

▶ Baron Davis struggled filling in for Jeremy Lin with just six points on 2-for-8 shooting.

RON HOSKINS/NBAE/GETTY IMAGES

## Knicks choke away lead in loss to Pacers

**The Knicks led by 15 points going into the fourth quarter, but an ugly finish doomed them to a 112-104 loss in Indiana last night. The Knicks were outscored 40-17 in the fourth quarter. Carmelo Anthony was the only player on the team who could score consistently, putting up 39 points on 17-for-31 shooting. The other four starters combined for just 38 points. Milwaukee had the night off, so New York holds a 1.5 game lead over the Bucks for the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.** METRO

# Former UF teammate pumps up Tebow deal

It was a pillow to the head that showed former Florida safety Will Hill that Tim Tebow was just a normal guy — and his kind of teammate and a leader.

A star in Jersey City, N.J., Hill was rated by nearly every recruiting service as a top-five player in the nation during his senior season of high school. Hill played two years of college football with Tebow at Florida and he recalls one day visiting the house of the now Jets quarterback.

The Florida safety walked into the bedroom and "'Poof' I get hit in the face with a pillow," Hill told Metro New York.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Hill played two seasons in Gainesville.

"He was having a pillow fight with [former Gators wide receiver] Riley Cooper. He was just laughing and having fun and smiling the whole time."

That to Hill was Tebow in a nutshell. He uses words like "genuine" and "selfless" to describe the former Heisman winner.

"New York is a lot in terms of pressure, but it is nothing like in Gainesville," Hill said. "I know people are like 'No,' but I lived up here; I come from here. But down there, he had to be driven to class; he had to be driven home. ... He was a god down there." KRISTIAN DYER


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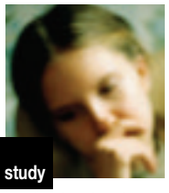
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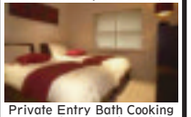
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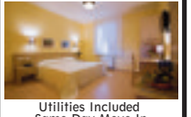
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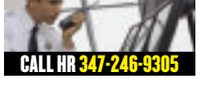
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## Legal Notices

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, number 1260915, for Wine & Beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Wine & Beer at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 158-14 Northern Blvd., Suite ML4, Flushing, NY 11358, for on-premise consumption. Sea & Family Inc. d/b/a Tarrace.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, number 1261690, for Wine & Beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Wine & Beer at retail in a tavern under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 71-30 Roosevelt Avenue., 2nd Floor, Jackson Heights, NY 11372, for on-premise consumption. El Sancho Restaurant Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, PURSUANT TO LAW that the NYC Dept. of Consumer Affairs will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 2:00 p.m., at 66 John Street, 11th floor, on a petition from Dinner Is Ready, LLC to establish, to maintain, and operate an enclosed sidewalk café at 84 Seventh Ave South in the Borough of Manhattan, for a term of two years.

REQUESTS FOR COPIES OF THE PROPOSED RECOVABLE CONSENT AGREEEMENT MAYBE ADDRESSED TO: DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, ATTN: FOIL OFFICER, 42 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY 10004

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### Public Notices

Take notice that in accordance with N.J.S.A, 39:16-16, application has been made to the Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission, to obtain title on one 2003 Lincoln Limo vin# 1L1FM81W13Y604742 2000 GMC SUV VIN# 1GKEK13R5YR128276 Objections should be made to N.J.M.V. Commission, P.O. Box 017, Trenton, N.J 08666

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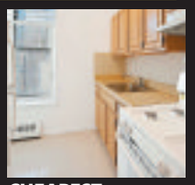
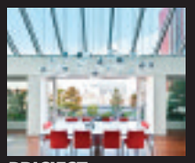
## Market watch



**CHEAPEST**
**$108K**
**167 W. 129th St.**
The cheapest apartment listed this week is a studio at 167 W. 129th St. This fourth-floor co-op, with income restrictions and southern exposures, is listed by Douglas Elliman for $108,000.



**PRICIEST**
**$19.5M**
**35-37 N. Moore St.**
The most expensive property listed this week is a Penthouse at 35-37 North Moore St. Co-exclusive between Corcoran and Douglas Elliman for $19.5M, this duplex features six bedrooms, 3,000 square feet of private outdoor gardens and a direct, keyed elevator.

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# Leftover lowballing: Brokers counsel against too-low offers

**As the spring selling season kicks into gear, brokers are up against an unwelcome obstacle: Buyers who insist on submitting offers well below asking price**

TOP PHOTO GROUP

Brokers are advising buyers to bid close to full price on NYC real estate this spring.

Last month, brokers said they struggled to educate buyers accustomed to controlling the market — some of whom made bargain bids on reasonably priced properties — that the spring season is a different beast. New apartment hunters are in the mix, and inventory is still down in most parts of Manhattan.

"Buyers still think they have the power going back to when the market crashed — more if they have all cash," says Jennifer Zucher, a senior vice president at Plaza Real Estate Group, who added that dealing with buyers who continue to offer 20 percent below asking price was the biggest impediment to closing a sale last month.

**"Buyers still think they have the power going back to when the market crashed — more if they have all cash. In reality, the owners are getting back more power, especially if they are in desirable locations."**
**JENNIFER ZUCHER**

"In reality," she says, "the owners are getting back more power, especially if they are in desirable locations."

The numbers reflect some — but not all — of that sentiment. In the first quarter of 2012, the number of Manhattan co-op and condo sales increased 14.9 percent compared to the previous quarter, rising to 2,311 sales from 2,011, according to Prudential Douglas Elliman data compiled by appraisal firm Miller Samuel. But year-over-year sales have dropped 3.5 percent.

Yukyong "Kianna" Choi, a vice president at Bond New York, says that recently many of her buy-side clients have lost out on properties because they were either outbid or failed to submit an offer before someone else signed a deal.

"It was a very frustrating experience for my clients who began their search believing that the market was slowing down and they had leverage," she says.

Eddie Shapiro, CEO of NestSeekers International, says that his agents are advising buyers to bid higher and closer to the asking price.

"The recession is over, and we have to get in the mind-set of 'next real estate boom,'" he says. "That means, if you find something that you like, bid close to ask and be willing to go to full ask. Wait too long or bid too low and you might miss the deal." **LEIGH KAMPING-CARDER**

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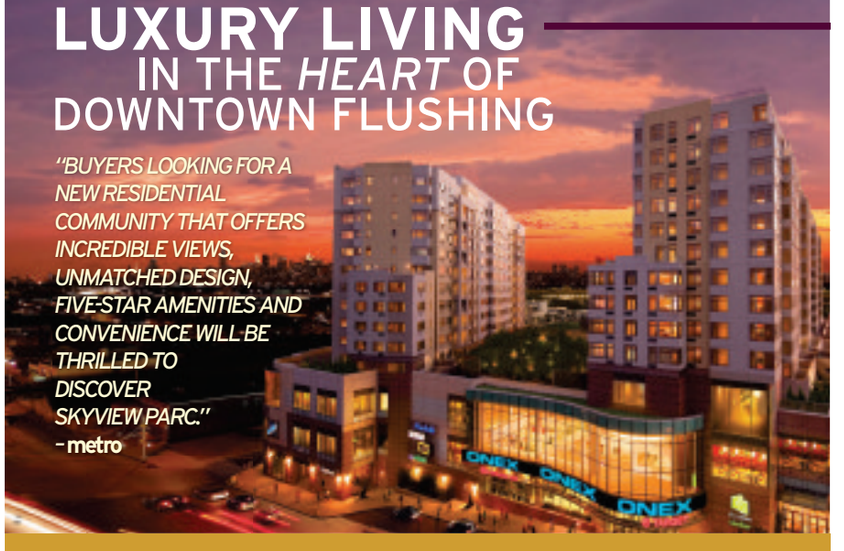


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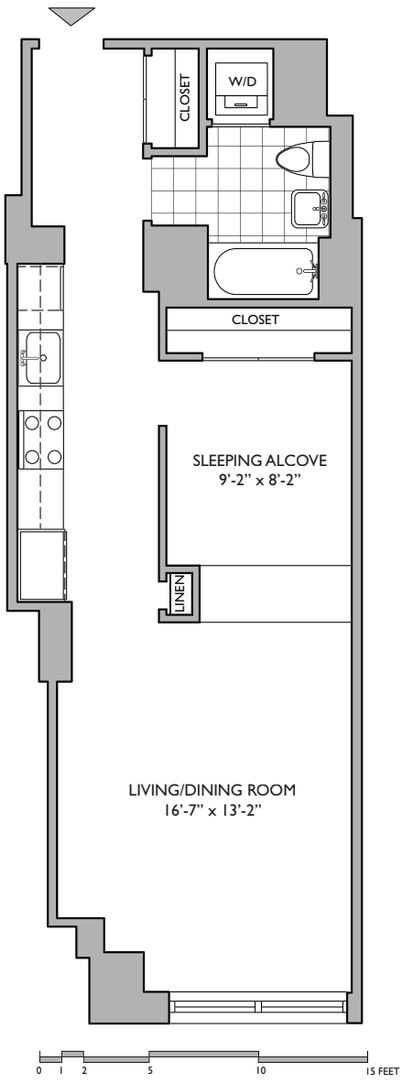

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